

**METHOD FOR INTEGRATING INTERBAY AND INTRABAY MATERIAL
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS WITHIN AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
FACTORY**

ABSTRACT

[0028] An integrated material transport system in an integrated circuit manufacturing factory is disclosed. The system comprises a first material transport subsystem traveling at a first height, and a second material transport subsystem traveling at a second height. There is at least one shared material transfer port to be used by both the first and second transport subsystems. Further, there is an integrated rail subsystem servicing both the first and second material transport subsystems for exchanging predetermined materials through the shared material transfer port with a predetermined material stocker under a ceiling with a uniform height.